

A steel company on the hunt to reduce every source of CO₂ emissions



By using remanufactured bearings in the slab caster machine, the steel company cuts 30 tonnes of CO₂ each year.

A large European steel company has set a challenging goal of reducing CO₂ emissions by a third, and is leaving no stone unturned in its efforts to meet that goal. Apart from looking at prominent emission generators, such as the blast furnaces, it is making significant gains everywhere it can. With the help of bearing remanufacturing services from SKF, it is preventing 30 tonnes of CO₂ emissions yearly.

Considerable savings in slab caster machine maintenance

In the slab caster machine, steel plant maintenance personnel replace about 2 000 bearings each year. But since half of the replacements are remanufactured bearings instead of new ones, the steel plant reuses 10 tonnes of steel, preventing the use of 62 000 kWh of energy, eliminating almost 30 tonnes of CO₂ emissions every year. An excellent contribution to reaching their overarching goal.

Delivery in weeks instead of months

Apart from economic and ecological savings, the steel company also benefits from significantly shorter delivery times. It can take 6

months to receive a brand-new bearing, while a remanufactured bearing can be delivered in only 6 weeks. Shorter lead times means that fewer parts need to be kept in stock, which in turn reduces the total cost of bearings stored at the steel plant.

Not all that is called remanufacturing is remanufacturing

Remanufacturing has clear advantages, but not every supplier has the same view on what remanufacturing is. Some refurbish rather than remanufacture. However, refurbishing a bearing by inspecting and cleaning it cannot compare to a remanufacturing process that generates completely new surfaces. Studies show that 50% of bearing fail-

ures result from poor lubrication conditions and pollution that lead to surface distress. In a proper remanufacturing process, these surface defects are removed mechanically to prevent further damage and avert impending failure.

One step towards a greener metal production

When trying to decrease the amount of CO₂ emissions from heavy industries, every tonne that can be prevented matters. By using remanufactured bearings in maintenance-intensive parts of the production, this steel company both avoids CO₂ emissions and reduces costs.



Remanufacturing services from SKF reduces both costs and CO₂ emissions.

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